MINUTES OF THE
JEPSON SCHOOL FACULTY MEETING
January 16, 2015

Attending: Kristin Bezio, Joanne Ciulla, Jessica Flanigan, Don Forsyth, Al Goethals, Hannah Hayes, Javier Hidalgo, Crystal Hoyt, Peter Kaufman, Tony Kong, Gary McDowell, Sandra Peart, Terry Price, Ernesto Semán, Kerstin Soderlund, Susan Taylor, Chris von Rueden

Absent: Julian Hayter (leave), Thad Williamson (leave)

The agenda and documentation were distributed prior to the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Dean Sandra Peart at 12:00 pm.

The minutes of the December 5, 2014 faculty meeting were approved.

Reports:

JSGA – Hannah Hayes reported that the JSGA has not met since returning from break but continues to work on their project to identify desired learning outcomes for LDST 101 and 102. As a follow-up to a comment at a prior faculty meeting, Sandra noted that class syllabi have been given a more prominent location under the Academics button on our website (http://jepson.richmond.edu/academics/index.html).

Admissions Process Proposal:

Sandra explained that she formed an ad hoc committee of the Student Affairs Committee plus Al Goethals and Julian Hayter to review the School’s current admissions process and propose recommendations. In presenting the proposed changes to the admissions process, Kerstin Soderlund noted three points:

- The proposed changes allow for the full faculty to weigh in on the list of selected students before voting and to clearly outline the circumstances under which a student could appeal an admissions decision.
- The opportunity for the full faculty to give feedback on the students selected by the committee is broadly written, allowing any faculty member to make a case for someone who is not on the list of selected students and/or raise concerns about a student who is on the list of selected students.
- The ad hoc committee felt that at the September faculty meeting, the Dean should talk with the full faculty about the number of possible applicants, the number of sections of required courses that are currently being offered, and the number of additional sections that could be offered.

During discussion of the proposal, Don Forsyth requested a stronger analysis of the admissions process. Sandra noted that historical data on how Jepson students perform in class across the University has been gathered previously, but can be updated and redistributed. She further suggested that the faculty vote on the proposed changes to the admissions process as presented by the ad hoc committee and revisit open admissions and other possible changes at a future faculty meeting. The proposal as presented by the ad hoc committee was approved by a vote of 12 in favor, 1 opposed, and no abstentions.

Terry Price asked that students be interviewed for their thoughts and perceptions.
Distinguished Educator Award:

Terry Price reviewed the process for nominating faculty for the University’s Distinguished Educator Award which recognizes excellence in teaching. Don, who serves on the University committee which reviews nominations and selects winners, explained that though an individual may receive the award more than once (“no more frequently than once in seven years and then only if there has been significant new and innovative achievement related to the criteria”), the committee is trying to avoid repeat recipients. Don stated that putting forward non-tenured faculty is awkward for the committee, though the award policy does not explicitly preclude non-tenured faculty nominations. After discussion, the general consensus appeared to be to nominate only tenured Jepson School faculty.

Leader-in-Residence (LIR) Update:

Gary McDowell reported that Edwin Meese will be visiting as our LIR March 23-25, 2015. Mr. Meese has been asked to consider addressing the timely subject of community policing, but details are still being worked out for his time on campus. Suggestions for utilizing Mr. Meese’s time included visits to two of Al Goethals’ classes, attendance at the March 23 Jepson Coffee Hour with students, and various lunches/dinners. Further requests for Mr. Meese’s time should be directed to Gary.

Sandra announced that David Garner, founder of Motley Fool, has committed to serving as our LIR for 2015-16. A joint event with the Business School is possible; Sandra welcomes ideas for engaging Mr. Gardner during his stay.

University Faculty Council (UFC) Update:

Crystal Hoyt reported that the UFC met yesterday; minutes will be distributed to all faculty soon. Particularly noteworthy is that the Faculty Info listserv members list will be enlarged, and that the University is considering bringing in “Box,” a collaboration storage platform, for University employees.

An urgent matter is for Jepson faculty to elect their first University Senate senator before early April. Sandra suggested using the process of nominations for the position and then voting by secret ballot. Crystal will let faculty know the details and time commitment of the senator position. The call for nominations will take place at the February faculty meeting.

Other Business:

Peter Kaufman announced that Coach Anson Dorrance, UNC, will be giving a public lecture on February 24; and Charlie Clotfelter, Professor of Public Policy, Economics, and Law at Duke University, will present a public lecture on April 7.

Kerstin asked faculty to look for an email from her regarding the ROADMAP program, a 3-day course held for incoming freshmen. Participating faculty are paid and assigned the students they teach as undeclared advisees for the year. She also announced that composites will be taken on February 10.

Sandra explained that, as a part of the University’s Continuity Plan, we are compiling a list of multiple phone numbers for an emergency contact list. Pam Khoury or Susan Taylor will be contacting all faculty and staff for information not currently available.
Sandra also announced that she would like to forego a spring faculty retreat this year, but asked faculty to hold Friday, May 8 in case the time is needed to conduct business. A dinner the evening of May 8 is a likely possibility.

Gary announced that Harvey Mansfield is the Marshall Center speaker on February 13.

Susan Taylor noted that Kaitlin Colby is serving as our student assistant while Andrew Weisbrodt is abroad this semester; projects may be left in the workroom for her. Susan also reminded everyone that those traveling on University business may seek reimbursement for gas only if they have rented a car. If an employee uses his/her personal vehicle, mileage is reimbursed with a MapQuest calculation of mileage as documentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Susan W. Taylor
January 23, 2015